



### An Arctic Vision.

By Bret Harte.

As the short-legged Esquimaux  
dies in the ice and snow,  
the playful polar bear  
the hunter nuzzles,  
all day they track the carmine  
of the ice and snow,  
the temperature alone  
as on St. Elias' coast;  
a dock, where Nature slips  
the ways her icy slaps,  
the bees that dying goes  
through all your arctic fobs,  
the tidings circling round  
the bay of Norton Sound,  
the vocal tide-wave back  
the spot where Eugene Sine  
his wretched Wandering Jew,  
his form whose features strike  
as and Esquimaux alike.  
It is whom Shards of old  
their humic rhymes forecast;  
as of black and lank of jaw  
the real Northern Thel  
the awful Yankee leering  
at across the Straits of Bering;  
the drifted snow, too plain,  
his his fresh tobacco stain,  
at beside the deep indenta-  
tion of his number ten.  
singing on his key hammer  
vade the hero of this drama,  
ad above the wild duck's clamor  
his own peculiar grammar  
the Arctic prologue rises:  
Vall, I reckon 'tain't no bad  
tell 'twas all they had,  
rue, the Springs are rather late  
and early Falls predominant;  
at the ice crop's pretty sure  
and the alp is kind of pure;  
here's a right smart chance for fur chase  
all along this recent purchase  
and unless the stories full  
very fish from quid to whale;  
weeks too; mebbe quartz; let's see—  
I would be strange if there should be—  
seems I've heard such stories told;  
"Why bless you—yes, it's gold!"  
While the blazes are falling thick  
from his California pick,  
on may recognize the Thos  
of the vision that I saw—  
read from visionary glances,  
the real magician's hammer.  
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### CHAPTER I. The Start.

TO the prospective miner who goes to  
Klondyke three things are neces-  
sary. They are endurance, patience  
and at least \$1,000.  
Without endurance he would never reach  
mines. Without patience he would  
locate a paying claim. Without  
sufficient for transportation and a  
er outfit it would be useless for him to  
t.  
In last steamers have started or are  
at to start up the coast for Seattle,  
ean and St. Michael. Already in Klon-  
the nights are growing longer. Pretty  
in the sun will set directly in the south,  
later on it will peep above the southern  
izon for only an hour daily.  
When the half-starved Klondyke pros-  
tor, with the mercury at 72 degrees be-  
low, will quangle down in his frozen  
skin, like a muskrat in its shock, and  
sum of the stark dead miners in Chilkat  
us and along the icy reaches of the  
skin-fools, whom dreams of gold have  
red into tempting death in a winter jour-  
ney to the mines.  
It would be extremely foolhardy for a  
man to start from New York for Klondyke  
less than \$1,500 in his pocket. It  
take at least \$400 to get within 1,000  
of the gold fields with only his trav-

## "Like the Days of Old, The Days of Gold,"

### Klondyke, the Fourth Great

elling bag in his hand. If he should go on  
without a miner's kit and proper supplies  
the scarcity of food and the exorbitant  
prices would take the rest, and he would  
find himself working for \$15 a day in Klon-  
dyke and paying \$14 for board.

Let us say you have \$1,200 in your pocket  
and the time of year is favorable for a  
trip to Klondyke.

Buy nothing but your clothes in New  
York. You can get all leather necessities on  
the Pacific coast and avoid excess baggage.  
Four heavy suits of woolen underwear  
will cost you about \$12. You will want at  
least two rough suits of working clothes,  
which you may get for \$10 a suit. Do not  
throw up your hands in horror. All your  
dime instincts will have vanished before  
you get over the pass. You will pay about  
\$8 for half a dozen flannel shirts.

A dozen pairs of woolen socks, a felt hat  
and a heavy fur cap, with "ears," may be  
got for, say, \$17. This will fit you out for  
everything you should buy this side of San  
Francisco except a rifle and revolver.

Get a Winchester, a plain, heavy, service-  
able gun, and have it tried before you buy  
it. It will cost you about \$30. A .45-calibre  
revolver will cost you \$15 more. Buy your  
ammunition on the coast. You can pack  
all this in your trunk and have room to  
spare.

You will need no "boiled shirts" or stiff  
collars at Klondyke. Everything must be  
heavy and serviceable and capable of re-  
sisting great cold.

You are now ready to start for San Fran-  
cisco. You can go by any one of half a  
dozen routes. It would be better, how-  
ever, for persons going from the East to  
take one of the more northerly routes, as  
the Southern Pacific is by no means the  
most direct road to San Francisco.

### CHAPTER II. At Seattle.

The North American Transportation and  
Trading Company run three steamers from  
San Francisco to Seattle, thence to St.  
Michael, and river boats from St. Michael  
up the Yukon River to Circle City. A  
ticket on the steamer Portland or Excelsior  
from Seattle to Circle City costs \$150, and  
it takes the boat fifteen days to make the  
trip. This will not suit your purpose if  
you want to start earlier than May 1. The  
last boat will leave San Francisco on Au-  
gust 30.

Therefore, if you start in March, which  
you probably will, you will go to Seattle.  
From there you can take the steamer of  
the Pacific Coast Steamship Company to  
Juneau.

This is the more feasible route for March  
travel, and, in fact, the only one, as it is  
impossible to get up the Yukon from St.  
Michael at that time of the year.

At Seattle you will find that the trans-  
portation companies will allow you to take  
no provisions whatever on their steamers,  
but they will guarantee to furnish you a  
year's provisions for \$400. Of course, you  
accept. It is the only thing you can do.

Besides, in any event, it is the most sensi-  
ble thing you could do, because the com-  
pany knows just what you want.

Secure your guarantee and pay for it be-  
fore leaving Seattle. You pay \$75 for your  
ticket to Juneau, and on board the tri-  
weekly steamer.

Three days of beautiful travel among is-  
lands still grayish green with the mild coast

## LIKE THE DAYS OF '24

### How to Get There.

Fare to Seattle over the Northern Pacific.....	\$67.75
Tourist sleeper, fare.....	0.00
Pullman sleeper.....	18.00
Meals, in dining car.....	18.00
Tourist meals at stations.....	9.00
New York to Seattle, in miles.....	3,160
Number of days en route.....	7
Steamer fare, Seattle to Juneau, with cabin and meals.....	75.00
Fare, with berth.....	67.50
Miles, Seattle to Juneau.....	1,000
Number of days, Seattle to Juneau.....	3
Cost of living in Juneau, per day.....	2.00
Steamboat, up Lynn canal to Healey's store, miles.....	100
Number of days to Healey's store.....	1
Cost of complete outfit, with provisions for one year.....	600.00
Price of dog and sled outfit.....	500.00
Last steamer from San Francisco—berths already filled—August 30.	
Days sailing from Seattle—Mondays and Thursdays.	
Total distance in miles.....	5,000
Total days required for journey.....	90
Best time to start—April 15.	

of Winter and you are at Juneau. You at-  
ready begin to sniff the placers from afar.  
Away off to the north are the huge white  
balconies which you must cross before you  
can reach the Eldorado. Between you and  
their summits are the league long levels of  
snow and cold—Nature's white death rose.

You will find Juneau a strange little  
town, cold, half frozen and huddled close  
to the mouth of an inland bay. The queer  
little houses are dismaying. The strange  
looking chilkats walk about, peering from  
beneath their hooded furs. Fish, not gold,  
is their ambition.

Occasionally one appears leading in leash  
half a dozen wild looking dogs. As the  
camel is the ship of the tropic desert, so  
are these dogs the little steam engines of  
the Arctic.

mukluks, or mud moccasins, for which  
days your provisions are duly delivered.

an anxious eye. The little fellows bark  
and tug and lie down to their work as  
though they liked it. Your feet are warm,  
your soul is at peace and you begin to en-  
joy it. Pretty soon your dogs, instead of  
following the others carefully, take a cross  
cut. They come to a log. Then they all  
sit down on their haunches, look about  
with a pleased expression and bark.

Of course you swear. There was never a  
dog driver who did not swear. Your part-  
ners come back and help you out of the  
mess, and on you go again at the rate of  
four miles an hour.

Those who go to the Klondyke will find  
the arctic dog a very cross-grained animal.  
Often they do the wrong thing with the  
best intentions in the world. Each has his  
peculiarities. Some are good-humored and  
some are snappish.

A word or two about camping on the

of the bed to keep your blankets out of the  
fire.

Before you do all this, however, cut poles  
for a temporary staging and lift the dog  
sled with its load intact to a haven of  
refuge away from the dogs. Also hang  
your harness out of their reach. Harness  
an animal is one of their favorite articles  
of diet.

Give each dog his supper before going to  
bed or he may tackle the fur robe that  
covers you and make off with it. If water  
is scarce place enough snow over your  
chinks to melt and fill it during the night.  
Hang your boots before the fire that they  
may be dry for the next day's march.

For the first few days the bulls of your  
feet are sore where they have struck  
against the bars of the snowshoes, but you  
will soon get used to it. You have long

### Gold Rush of the Century.

side are sheer and smooth, and the water  
whirls between them like the whirlpools  
at Niagara.

Everybody goes down ahead to inspect  
the rapids before the "shooting" process.  
Many outfits are lost here. There is no  
other resource but to shoot the chutes, and  
a half-raising process it is.

It is only half a minute, but it is lively  
while it lasts. The ice cold water will  
drench you, its roar will deafen you. Bill-  
ing must be constant and lively or under  
you go.

It is the custom to let the boats down  
the White Horse Rapids with long ropes,  
a supply of which you should take along.  
Then you are confronted successively by  
the Five Finger Rapids and the Risk  
Rapids and the rapids in Lake Laberge.

When you are through with all this, you  
emerge on the broad lee of Lewis River,  
and once more you take up your slow,  
wearisome march for the Klondyke.

Sometimes the trip from Juneau takes  
three months, sometimes it takes less.  
You have by this time grown used to cold,  
to hardship and privation. Your hair is  
long and unkempt, and so is your beard.  
When will the long travel be over?

### CHAPTER IV. At Klondyke.

At last, one day, the leader of the party,  
topping a rise with his gaunt dog team,  
catches the blue curl of smoke among the  
trees by the margin of the river.

"Klondyke! Klondyke!" is the cry. Not  
Klondyke, but Dawson City. It is all the  
same. Five hundred or more straggling  
cabins, tents, mud houses and barbooras  
set on the edge of the frozen Yukon. This  
is Dawson City.

The first sight is disappointing. No women  
are in sight. The snow is yet deep on the  
ground. Over in the bottom several miners  
are lazily picking away at the gravel.  
Others are burning it out like roasted corn.

You long to be at it. But first a cabin  
must be built. You naturally select a spot  
away out on the edge of the town and  
near the bed of the magic creek.

The gaunt and hungry miners come to  
visit you. They offer you a dollar for a  
needle and thread. They offer you \$25 for  
a pair of rubber boots. They are rich—  
these grizzled and whiskered fellows—but  
they are ragged and hungry.

You build your cabin. While you are  
doing it they tell you strange stories. One  
tall, black-whiskered man came into town  
from the upper Klondyke and got drunk.

A barber, seeing a shining speck in his  
beard, shaved him while helpless. His  
whiskers panned out \$20.

Don't believe it, oh! tenderfoot. Say  
nothing and go to work. The goal is won,  
but the gold is not. It is very cold, even  
in May. In the winter whiskey is served  
in solid chunks on napkins at \$1 a chunk,  
and other necessities of life at propor-  
tionate prices.

You will find the country well timbered  
about Klondyke. The summer is dry, hot  
and pleasant. Grain is mostly a failure.  
Turnips and radishes will flourish, and po-  
tatoes, though small, will grow well. Can-  
bages will not head at all. Fodder is abun-  
dant, and cattle could be easily kept if they  
were brought into the country.

The growth of plants is rapid after the  
snow disappears. In June the sun sets

### The Gold Output of All the World

ALL the gold mined in the world from  
the date of the discovery of America  
to the close of the fiscal year of 1897  
is placed by the statisticians of the various  
governments at \$8,781,533,763.

It is interesting to know that nearly half  
of this total for over 400 years has been  
taken out of three countries in less than  
fifty years. Since the days of '49 Califor-  
nia and the contiguous gold fields have  
given up \$2,035,416,000. Gold was disco-  
vered in Australia in 1851, in New South  
Wales, New Zealand, Queensland, Tas-  
mania, Victoria and Western Australia, a  
the total output to date is \$1,655,713,000.  
Gold in South Africa, or, to be exact,  
the South African Republic, has only be-  
come of importance since 1890, and the to-  
tal of the first six months of 1898 was  
a little less than \$212,000,000. The pre-  
cious metal is to-day being yielded at an annual  
rate of \$30,000,000 in the United States,  
\$25,500,000 in Australia and \$30,000,000 in  
South Africa. But little is ever heard of  
the enormous fortunes that must have been  
made in Australia. This is due to the  
fact that the principal mines are operated  
by syndicates of English capitalists. The  
name that is pre-eminent in the history of  
Australian gold fields is that of "Monty"  
Miller, who is said to have retired with  
fortune of \$25,000,000, not large enough  
make him conspicuous should he  
California.

The wealth of the South African Repub-  
lic has been divided among fewer men. Be-  
nary Barnato is said to have been worth  
\$200,000,000, Alfred Beit is the repu-  
tation of \$100,000,000, Cecil Rhodes of  
\$50,000,000, and the greatest of all is  
Robtson, who is supposed to con-  
\$250,000,000, all taken out of the Rand.  
The list of Americans who have be-  
come millionaires through  
mines, with incidental silver, is a long one.  
Fully one-half of the \$2,000,000,000 tak-  
en out of the mountains of the Pacific Slope  
is divided among less than twenty men.  
The names of the more famous are pre-  
sented in the financial history of the world,  
include:

Leland Stanford.....	\$25,000,000
James G. Fair.....	25,000,000
Charles Crocker estate.....	22,000,000
Peter Donahoe.....	20,000,000
J. B. Huggins.....	20,000,000
John W. Mackay.....	20,000,000
James G. Flood.....	10,000,000
William S. O'Brien.....	10,000,000
Sharon estate.....	20,000,000
Mark Hopkins.....	21,000,000
Lick estate.....	10,000,000
C. P. Huntington.....	35,000,000
Charles McLaughlin.....	5,000,000
Alex Montgomery.....	5,000,000
Dave T. Murphy.....	5,000,000
Adolphus C. Whitcomb.....	5,000,000
Thomas Byrre.....	5,000,000
J. C. Wimmerding.....	5,000,000
Walter S. Hobart.....	5,000,000
Robert C. Johnson.....	5,000,000

about 10:30 p. m., and rises about 3 a.  
Even at midnight, however, it is almost  
light as at noonday.

The mean temperature of Klondyke  
the four seasons is as follows:  
Spring ..... 14.22 Summer .....  
Autumn ..... 17.37 Winter .....

Think of it—a mean winter temper-  
ature of thirty degrees below zero! The W  
fall of snow is between five and ten fe

But you have reached Klondyke. O  
\$1,500 you have \$130 left. You are l  
and courageous. Now stake out  
and go to work, and may luck  
efforts.



### The Gold Output from the Three Great Former Strikes. Will Klondyke Surpass Them?

They weigh about 600 pounds and require  
six dogs to draw them. You are not yet  
through buying. You must have fur gloves.  
They will cost you \$3. You must have  
mukluks, or mud moccasins, for which  
you pay \$4. These are made of fur seal,  
with the fur inside. They come to the knee  
or all the way up the thigh, as you may  
choose. Get snow shoes of the Ingalik pat-  
tern for \$10 a pair, and at last you are  
ready. If you are not an experienced dog  
driver woe be unto you. All you can do is  
to trust in Providence and follow the leader.  
This you prepare to do.

### CHAPTER III. Dog Sledging.

You are off. The leader's whip cracks  
merrily, and away you go over the tundra,  
following your worldly possessions with

Klondyke route may not be amiss. An  
Indian is wise and cunning in many things,  
but in building a fire to fit the white men's  
pots and kettles he is a failure. He builds  
a conical fire.

Build your fire in layers, with each  
stick parallel and at right angles with  
those beneath. Place a bit of kindling on  
top, put your "chynik," or coffee pot, on  
the kindling, and then light it—not at the  
bottom, but at the top. Thus you get quick  
action from the flame.

In selecting a camp at night place your  
tent with its side to the wind, and build  
your fire at the entrance, so the smoke will  
blow across the opening instead of into it.

In cutting spruce boughs for your bed  
place the twigs with the stems down and  
the tips up that your couch may be soft  
and springy. Place a green log at the foot

since realized that this is no child's  
journey.

Fifteen miles a day is a good journey on  
the Klondyke route. The dogs will seldom  
stand more. Occasionally you may kill a  
moose or a caribou and have fresh meat.  
Sometimes the Indians will bring it to you.

It is best to pack your bedding in an oil-  
skin cover. Thus protected you will always  
find it dry.

The route is directly up the Chilkat River,  
and with a few exceptions you will find  
travelling on the ice moderately good as  
far as the Indian Portage Lakes.

When your dogs have drawn you through  
the last canyon and out of Mud Lake the  
real trouble begins. Here the river is  
about a quarter of a mile wide and very  
swift. It rapidly narrows into a canyon  
50 feet in width. The walls on either



### When You Get There.

Cost of shirts.....	\$5.00
Boots, per pair.....	10.00
Rubber boots, per pair.....	25.00
Caribou hams, each.....	40.00
Flour, per fifty pounds.....	20.00
Beef, per pound (fresh).....	.50
Bacon, per pound.....	.75
Coffee, per pound.....	1.00
Sugar, per pound.....	.50
Eggs, per dozen.....	2.00
Condensed milk, per can.....	1.00
Live dogs, per pound.....	2.00
Picks, each.....	15.00
Shovels, each.....	15.00
Wages, per day.....	15.00
Lumber, per 1,000 feet.....	750.00

Months that mining is possible during the year—May, June and July